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pared at all times to respond to the call of states or cities in sanitary distress or in need of sound advice on public health matters. When to all these responses and successes we add that greatest of all modern sanitary achievements, the making habitable of the Isthmian Canal Zone, largely through the genius of one man, we need not be surprised that the American Medical Association has chosen that man for its next president, namely, Colonel William C. Gorgas, medical member of the Isthmian Canal Commission, but a sanitarian rather than an ordinary medical man.

Enough has been said to show the marvelous responses made or making on every hand to the call with which we are dealing. And yet much more might be said. The establishment of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, of the McCormick Institute for Infectious Diseases, of sanitary and engineering research laboratories, of a permanent and well-equipped federal census bureau, the recent proposal of Dr. Ditman, of Columbia University, for the establishment of a school of sanitary science and preventive medicine—all these testify that the call to health is being heard and answered.

The relation of the physician to the public is rapidly changing. He will soon be expected to be as proficient in the art of prevention as in that of healing. He will not be expected to build water works or sewerage systems, or to install systems of street cleaning, or garbage disposal, or heating and ventilation. These will be left, where they belong, with the sanitary engineer. He will not be expected to be an analyst of foods and drugs, or a judge of their purity. Public health work of this kind belongs to the sanitary chemist. He will not usually, though he will occasionally, be a bacteriologist to boards of health, or sanitary testing stations, or municipal water works, or sewage filters. Such work

will be done more and more by sanitary biologists. What he will do, will be, first and foremost, to fulfill that most ancient and most honorable function of the medical man and remain the trusted and intimate medical adviser of individuals and of families in sickness and in health. He will not, however, be content with this alone. He will seek, in season and out of season, not merely to cure but still more to prevent disease among individuals, families and communities, by urging higher standards of living; by teaching temperance in all things; by advocating pure water, pure milk, pure food, pure living. If it is in him to be an investigator or a teacher, he will be one or both of these things. If not, he will be a frank and honest, but not a captious, critic; he will mold and reform, if he can not lead, public opinion. And by so doing he will give to his day and his generation noble and useful service; he will respond to the call of the age; he will do his part for the public health; he will uphold greatly the traditions of a great profession.

WILLIAM T. SEDGWICK

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#### APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE<sup>1</sup>

THE aggregate of the appropriations carried in the act is \$11,672,106. This does not include an appropriation of \$460,000 for the printing and binding of the department, which appears in the appropriation act for sundry civil expenses. There are also permanent appropriations of \$3,000,000 for the federal meat inspection and of \$528,000 for the Adams fund, both of which are administered by the department, but not included in the act, making a grand total of \$15,660,106 for the coming year, and an apparent increase over the previous year of \$2,320,814, or about 15 per cent. A large part of this increase, however, is only nominal, as for the present year over

<sup>1</sup> From *The Experiment Station Record*.

\$1,000,000 derived from receipts from forest reserves is available, whereas under the terms of the act for 1907-8 subsequent receipts must be turned into the treasury. The real increase carried by the act is distributed through the work of the entire department, but notably larger sums are available for what may be termed its administrative duties, such as the management of the national forests, the pure food and drug inspection, and the campaign against the gipsy moth and cattle tick, as well as for additional buildings and equipment on the forest reserves and for the Weather Bureau.

In the matter of general legislation the act perhaps contains no measures of the large importance of the meat-inspection law or the Nelson amendment, which have been such notable features in previous years, although a number of new lines are provided, and some are of considerable importance. Among these may be mentioned the inauguration of evaporation investigations and of studies of the prevalence and extent of tuberculosis among dairy cattle, the establishment of a standard of cotton grading, the inspection of foods intended for export under certain conditions, and the making of denatured alcohol in small amounts under farm conditions. The sum of \$10,000 is appropriated for the testing of plants as to their suitability for paper making, and a like sum is available for an inquiry into the destruction of forests by the production of turpentine and resin and the sources and methods of the industry, and for a report, in cooperation with the Bureau of the Census, upon the production of the naval stores industry.

The president was directed to reserve not to exceed 12,800 acres of the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana for a permanent national bison range, for a herd of bison to be presented by the American Bison Society, \$30,000 being appropriated for payment of these lands and \$40,000 for fencing and the erection of buildings. An amendment diverting \$5,000 annually from the Morrill and Nelson funds of Cornell University to the Mount Tabor Industrial and Manual Train-

ing School was adopted by the senate, but eliminated in conference.

Under the new appropriation act the Weather Bureau receives \$1,662,260, an increase of \$248,720, the latter chiefly for the erection of additional buildings and the repair and improvement of those now completed. Of this amount \$60,000 was appropriated for the erection of a main observatory building at Mount Weather, Va., to replace that destroyed by fire October 23, 1907, and for the erection of a central heating and lighting plant, together with \$15,000 for the completion of a physical laboratory and other buildings. The establishment of new stations was authorized and \$110,000 was appropriated for sites and buildings, of which \$5,000 is to be used for the reestablishment of the station at Pikes Peak. The work of the bureau was increased in scope by the addition of investigations on evaporation. The limit of the cost of maintenance of the bureau printing office was raised from \$18,000 to \$30,000.

The appropriation of the Bureau of Animal Industry was increased \$48,300, making a total of \$1,080,860, exclusive of the meat inspection which, as previously stated, is now provided for by permanent law, and also of the emergency appropriation for the eradication of the cattle tick in the south. The latter appropriation was increased from \$150,000 to \$250,000, of which \$25,000 was made immediately available. Specific authority was conferred for the enforcement of the laws of March 3, 1891, relative to the humane treatment of cattle exported to foreign countries, and of June 29, 1906, for the prevention of cruelty to animals during interstate transportation. The investigation of the prevalence and extent of tuberculosis among dairy cattle in the United States was included in the lines of work to be undertaken; while a clause authorizing the expenditure of \$5,000 for an investigation of hemorrhagic septicemia, infectious cerebro-spinal meningitis, and malignant catarrh and for the working out, in cooperation with the Minnesota station, of the problem of prevention by means

of antitoxin or preventive vaccines was eliminated.

The Bureau of Plant Industry received an apparent net increase of \$289,446, but this includes the boll-weevil work of the bureau, which last year was carried as an emergency appropriation of \$150,000. The general work of the bureau was extended to include the establishment of an official standard of cotton classification. A clause making the grain standards fixed by the department the official standards for grading was reported by the house committee, but stricken out on a point of order. The provision for grain inspection was continued on the present basis, except that it was included in the general work of the bureau instead of from a specific appropriation. The work on the prevention of algal and other contaminations of water supplies was restricted to farm water supplies. The appropriation for the introduction of rare seeds and plants from foreign countries was increased \$20,000, making \$56,000 for this purpose, in addition to the congressional seed distribution, which was continued on the usual basis.

The general policy of the forest service was again the subject of extended discussion. An increase of \$1,496,200 was granted, making its total appropriation \$3,896,200, by far the largest carried in the act. As has been explained, however, the greater part of this increase is in lieu of the forest receipts. The sum of \$600,000, an increase of \$100,000, was appropriated for the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, telephone lines, cabins, fences, and other permanent improvements. A number of additional limitations were imposed restricting the entire appropriation to territory under the jurisdiction of the United States, reducing the limit of cost of buildings on the forest reserves from \$1,000 to \$500, and limiting traveling expenses to "business directly connected with the forest service and in furtherance of the works, aims, and objects specified and authorized in and by this appropriation."

The provisions of the previous year authorizing the extension of the national forests and

the giving of advice to owners of woodlands as to their care were eliminated, but authority to aid other federal bureaus in the performance of their duties in respect to the national forests was granted, and advances of money may hereafter be made to chiefs of field parties for fighting forest fires.

The Bureau of Chemistry received an increase of \$128,800, chiefly for additional expenses incident to the enforcement of the National Food and Drug Act. Authority was granted to demonstrate and illustrate the methods for the making of denatured alcohol on a scale suited to the farmer or associations of farmers, and also to investigate the character of the chemical and physical tests which are applied to American food products in foreign countries, and, on request, to inspect such products when intended for export to countries requiring such tests.

The appropriation for the Bureau of Soils was increased to \$234,700, a net increase of \$27,800. Its work was provided for as at present except for some changes as to the scope of the tobacco investigations.

In the Bureau of Entomology the salary of the entomologist was increased from \$3,250 to \$4,000. The total appropriation was increased \$48,950, making \$184,960, of which \$10,000 is immediately available. This appropriation, however, includes the boll-weevil investigations which have been carried in an emergency appropriation. In addition, the bureau has charge of the gipsy and brown-tail moth campaign, for which an emergency appropriation of \$250,000, an increase of \$100,000, was made, the entire appropriation being immediately available. The silk investigations in progress for several years are to be brought to a close.

In connection with the Bureau of Biological Survey it will be recalled that while the customary appropriation of \$52,000 was granted last year, the secretary was directed to report to what extent, if any, the work done by the survey was duplicated by any other department of the government, and the practical value of the work to the agricultural interests of the country. This report, according to Chairman Scott of the house committee

on agriculture, "demonstrates clearly that the work of the bureau is not a duplication of any being done elsewhere, and that it is of direct and very great value to agriculture"; and the work of the bureau was accordingly continued with an increase of \$10,000 for biological investigations.

The total appropriation for the Office of Experiment Stations, including \$720,000 for the stations under the Hatch Act, is \$1,034,620, an increase of \$21,400. This increase includes \$3,400 for statutory salaries and \$5,000 for agricultural education through farmers' institutes and agricultural schools, making \$10,000 for the latter purpose. For the general maintenance of the Office and the irrigation and drainage investigations the appropriations of this year, \$30,000 and \$150,000, respectively, were continued. The appropriations for the stations in Alaska, Hawaii and Porto Rico were increased \$2,000 in each case to correspond with the increase to the state stations under the Adams Act, and \$5,000 was granted for the establishment and maintenance of a station in the island of Guam. This island, embracing about 210 square miles, has a population of about 9,000, chiefly engaged in agriculture of a primitive sort, and it is planned to extend assistance to its inhabitants who are now experiencing great losses from a cocoanut disease recently introduced, which threatens the complete extinction of the industry.

An appropriation of \$7,000 was also made to the office for setting up and completing the apparatus formerly used in the nutrition investigations and the preparation for publication of results already obtained. In accordance with the current appropriation act, the respiration calorimeter and accessory apparatus belonging to the government have been brought from Middletown, Conn., to Washington, and it is planned to install them in completed form in the basement of one of the new laboratories of the department.

The Bureau of Statistics received an increase in its general fund for the collection of agricultural statistics of \$7,000. Reductions on the statutory roll, chiefly through transfer, made a net gain of \$1,700.

To provide for the increase in the general business of the department consequent on that of the several bureaus, additional appropriations were granted of \$13,700 for the office of the secretary, \$4,900 for the division of accounts, \$18,160 for the division of publications, and \$5,200 for the library. The chief of the division of accounts was made administrative officer of the fiscal affairs of the department. An increase of \$39,200 was also allowed for contingent expenses, of which \$25,000 is for the construction of shops, stables, and storage buildings to replace the present structures and \$8,000 for rent.

The work of the Office of Public Roads was broadened to permit the furnishing of expert advice on road maintenance and administration, as well as on road building, and the appropriation was increased \$17,340. A provision was inserted forbidding the rent or purchase of road-making machinery.

Large as is the aggregate appropriation for the department, it represents only about 1.5 per cent. of the entire federal appropriation and a per capita expenditure of less than 20 cents; and, as has been indicated, much of this sum is in the nature of permanent improvements upon an investment.

#### COMMANDER PEARY'S EXPEDITION

COMMANDER PEARY, from the steamship *Roosevelt*, at Sydney, N. S., on July 16, addressed to Dr. H. F. Osborn, president of the American Museum of Natural History, the following letter:

We are leaving Sydney to-day for the North. I shall go north across the Gulf of St. Lawrence through the Strait of Belle Isle; along the southern portion of the Labrador coast; to the west coast of Greenland in the vicinity of Godhab; then follow the west coast through Davis Strait and Baffin Bay, and across Melville Bay to Cape York, which, if everything goes well, should be reached about the first of August.

For some ten days I shall be occupied in the region from Cape York (76 degrees north latitude) to Etah (about 79 degrees north latitude), taking on board my Eskimos with their dogs, and hunting walrus for my meat supply.

About the middle of August, after replenishing the coal supply of the *Roosevelt* from the auxil-